Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

OC-05 CCO-00 A-01 /072 W

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P 211448Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3902

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

CNO WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

COMNAVINTCOM WASHDC

COMSIXTHFLT

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

CJUSMAGG

CONFIDENTIAL ATHENS 3900

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, NATO, GR, UR SUBJECT: SOVIET SHIP VISITS TO GREECE

REFS: (A) USDAO ATHENS 201420Z APR 76 (B) ATHENS 3852 (DTG 201522Z APR 76)

1. AS PROJECTED, ACTING CJUSMAGG MET BRIEFLY WITH DEFMIN AVEROFF APRIL 21 AND MADE POINTS OUTLINED IN PARA 3, REF B. AVEROFF EXPRESSED GRATITUDE AT RECEIPT OF INFORMATION, EXPRESSED INTEREST IN AGI CAPABILITY, AND STATED THAT ANY TELEPHONE CALL TO CHARGE WOULD BE MADE BY FONMIN BITSIOS RATHER THAN BY HIMSELF. UPON AVEROFF'S DEPARTURE FOR A CABINET MEETING, ACTING CJUSMAGG CONTINUED DISCUSSION WITH DEFMIN'S NAVAL AIDE AS SUGGESTED BY AVEROFF. NAVAL AIDE SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED REQUEST FOR SHIP VISITS FROM SOVIET EMBASSY ON MARCH 26 BUT THAT MINISTRY OF CONFIDENTIAL

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DEFENSE NOT INFORMED UNTIL APRIL 14. HE ALSO NOTED THAT

REASON FOR VISIT GIVEN BY SOVIET EMBASSY WAS TO GIVE CREWS TIME ASHORE DURING GREEK EASTER SO THAT THEY MIGHT "SHARE IN OBSERVANCES", (SIC) AND ADDED THAT ROUTINE LOGISTICAL REQUESTS NOT YET RECEIVED FROM SOVIET UNITS. NAVAL AIDE NOTED THAT AVEROFF NEEDED INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ACTING CJUSMAGG FOR USE AT CABINET MEETING, AND UNDERTOOK TO INFORM LATTER OF GOG ACTION RE PENDING SOVIET VISIT REQUEST AFTERNOON OF SAME DAY TO FACILITATE U.S. ACTION TO ALERT U.S. COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES.

- 2. NAVAL AIDE LATER TELEPHONED ACTING CJUSMAGG TO INFORM HIM THAT GOG WAS GRANTING PERMISSION FOR VISITS TO PIRAEUS, AS REQUESTED. HE ALSO STATED THAT GOG WAS ALERTING GREEK TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES TO IMPENDING PRESENCE OF SOVIET SHIPS
- 3. AS OF DTG THIS MESSAGE, FOREIGN MINISTER HAS NOT BEEN IN TOUCH WITH CHARGE ABOUT THIS MATTER. SINCE DECISION TO GRANT PERMISSION FOR VISITS HAS APPARENTLY BEEN TAKEN, WE DOUBT HE WILL DO SO. SHOULD HE DO SO, HOWEVER, CHARGE WILL MAKE POINTS OUTLINED LAST PARA REF B. STEARNS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NAVAL SHIPS, MILITARY VISITS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 21 APR 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ATHENS03900

Document Number: 1976ATHENS03900
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760151-0273

From: ATHENS

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760441/aaaabiiw.tel Line Count: 84

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EUR Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 ATHENS 3852 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: CunninFX

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 05 FEB 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 FEB 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2004 by CunninFX>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: SOVIET SHIP VISITS TO GREECE

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, GR, UR, US, NATO, (AVEROFF, EVANGELOS)
To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006